**Functioning of NGOs**

2583. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) functioning all over the Country and the financial allocation by Government for implementation of welfare programmes through NGOs;

(b) whether the target of Government has been achieved;

(c) whether Government propose to increase the financial allocation for those NGOs which are implementing welfare schemes properly; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (DR. SANJAY PASWAN): (a) In 2002-03 against budgetary allocation of Rs. 220.96 crore and amount of Rs. 221.79 crore has been released to 2720 NGOs. The additional amount has been met by way of reappropriation. In 2003-04 the Ministry has allocated an amount of Rs. 217.14 crore for the implementation of welfare programmes through NGOs.

(b) No target has been fixed.

(c) and (d) The financial assistance is released to the organization on the basis of their budgetary demands, recommendation of the State Government or authorized inspection agencies and as per the norms of the scheme.

**National Scholarship Scheme for handicapped students**

†2584. SHRIMATI SAVITA SHARDA: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether government have launched any National Scholarship Scheme for handicapped students who intend to pursue nigher education;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.